

Message Text

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16

ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

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FM AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4268

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY CONAKRY

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOGADISCIO 1613

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UNSC, SO, GV, NI

SUBJECT: SONNA RAPS UNSC VETO POWER

1. EDITORIAL IN OCTOBER 4 ISSUE OF SOMALI NATIONAL NEWS AGENCY (SONNA) BULLETIN URGES ABOLITION OF SECURITY COUNCIL VETO POWER WHICH, IT IS ALLEGED, HAS BEEN USED AGAINST INTERESTS OF AFRICA AND THE THIRD WORLD. IF VETO POWER RETAINED, AFRICA SHOULD PRESS FOR PERMANENT SEAT ON COUNCIL. SONNA CREDITS GUINEA FOR ORIGINATING IDEA OF PERMANENT AFRICAN SEAT AND SUPPORTS SEKOU TOURE'S APPARENT SUGGESTION THAT NIGERIA FILL THIS POSITION. NIGERIA DESERVES SEAT, AMONG OTHER REASONS, BECAUSE OF ITS STAND ON ANGOLA WHICH, SONNA ALLEGES, LED TO MURTALA MOHAMMED'S ASSASSINATION BY THE "ENEMIES OF AFRICA".

2. COMMENT: THIS IS PROBABLY THE FIRST TIME ISSUES OF UNSC VETO/ PERMANENT AFRICAN SEAT HAVE SURFACED IN SOMALI MEDIA AND MOTIVES FOR THIS SUDDEN INTEREST ARE UNCLEAR. IT REMAINS BE SEEN WHETHER NIGERIANS ARE PUSHING THEIR "CANDIDACY" HERE. IN ANY CASE, GSDR'S SUPPORT FOR NIGERIA MAY BE BASED ON HOPE OF FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FROM OIL-RICH AFRICAN BROTHER, ASSISTANCE WHICH HAS NOT BEEN

FORTHCOMING IN AMOUNTS SOMALIA WOULD LIKE FROM
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OIL-RICH ARAB BROTHERS.

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